to import 1.5 lakh tonnes of RBD Pallmolein during 1995-96 for supply through the Public Distribution System.

Monitoring of ITPO Functions

5853. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government are taking to carefully monitor the functioning of Indian Trade Promotion Organisation;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Pragati Maidan grounds are not well maintained in recent years; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to improve the Pragati Maidan grounds used for exhibitions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) A Memorandum of understanding fixing Financial and Physical targets for achievement by India Trade Promotion Organisation is signed between ITPO and Ministry of Commerce every year. The performance of ITPO is monitored by the Government on the basis of evaluation of paramenters devised in the Memorandum of understanding.

(b) No, Sir, Every effort is made to ensure that Pragati Maidan is maintained to meet the requirements for holing international level exhibitions.

(c) The improvement of facilities at Pragati Maidan is a continuous process. Number of improvements have been done in the past. ITPO proposes to take up following measures:—

(i) Construction of additional air conditioned exhibition halls.

(ii) Modification of Indira's Vision Pavilion into a modern conference complex.

(iii) Provision of additional escalator in Hall of Technology.

(iv) Replacement of ordinary flooring with heavy duty dewatered vacuum flooring in Halls No.2,3,4,5,6, & 7

(v) Replacement of old transformers and other equipment in Electric Sub Stations.

(vi) Renovation of toilets in exhibition halls all over Pragati Maidan Complex.

(vii) Construction of underground water pump and tubewell etc. for augmentation of water supply.

(viii) Providing passenger lifts in Hall of Special Displays.

(ix) Furnishing of Auditormum and providing simultaneous translation system in Hall of Special Displays.

(x) Replacement of old and worn out water supply and sewer lines which were laid during 1970—72.

(xi) Construction of new Entrance at Gate No. 2.

(xii) Improving & arranging parking facilities.

Simplification of Procedures by DGFT to Facilitate Exports

5854. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the procedures at the Office of the Director-General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) are being simplified to facilitate exports;

(b) if so, what changes have been announced in 1995-96;

(c) whether deliberate delays are being monitored in the DGFT; and

(d) details of such monitoring for improvement of DGFT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

The Hand-Book of Procedures, 1992—97 (Revised Edition 30th April, 1995) containing details of the procedures is available in the Parliament Library. A system of time bound disposal of applications is in operation and delays in disposal of applications are monitored on a monthly basis.

Stores Purchased by DGS&D

5855. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total value of various kinds of stores purchased by DGS&D during 1994-95;

(b) what is the total value of Road Dressing and Roof covering materials and Rubber contraceptives purchased by DGS&D during the year 1994-95;

(c) if purchased during the year, in which months these materials were procured, if not, the reasons for not procuring these items during 1994-95; and

(d) what is the value of stores purchased by DGS&D between January and March 1995 and the percentage of purchase of stores in the last quarter of the year in 1992-93 and 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Total value of purchases made by DGS&D during 1994-95 is Rs.2187.75 crores (provisional).

(b) Value of Road Dressing and Roof Covering material purchased by the DGS&D during 1994-95 is Rs.487.38 crores (provisional). No procurement was made for contraceptives during the year.

(c) Month-wise figures are not maintained as these are rate contract items and supply orders against these items are placed directly by Direct Demanding Officers.

No purchase of contraceptive was made in 1994-95 as the item is not on Rate Contract (RC).

(d) About 80% of the stores purchased by DGS&D are througth the Rate Contracts (RCs) where the payments are made and monitored by the office of the Chief Controller of Accounts. The details of the payments made during the last quarters of the years 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95 are as under:—

Year	Payment during the year (In crores of Rs.)	Payment during last quarter of the year (In crores of Rs.)	Percentage
1992-93	4152.50	1213.87	29.23%
1993-94	3840.89	1205.27	31.30%
1994-95	3064.12	924.26	30.16%

Delay in issuing of Handbook of Procedures for Exporters

5856. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Delay in issuing handbook of procedures irks exporters" as reported in 'Pioneer' dated 21st April, 1995;

(b) if so, whether the delay in issuing of handbook of procedures has affected exporters at large;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the corrective measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.